

16 February 2011

## **GOLF AND POLO LEAD EUROPEAN CAR SALES**

- **Volkswagen's Golf remains Europe's best-selling car**
- **Volkswagen's Polo takes 2<sup>nd</sup> place, keeping the brand ahead of its rivals**
- **New Opel/Vauxhall Astra performs strongly in tough market**

Despite slightly lower sales compared to this time last year, mainly caused by reduced demand in France, the Volkswagen Golf has remained Europe's best selling car. The Golf's smaller sibling, the Polo, has claimed the No. 2 position for the month, consolidating Volkswagen's lead in Europe.

The new Opel/Vauxhall Astra has performed well in a tough market with a 6.7% increase in sales compared to January 2010, on the back of strong sales in Germany. Strong sales in Germany and Great Britain have also helped the Ford Focus to see a sales increase, despite its imminent replacement.

Meanwhile a decline in the Italian market, which a year ago was still being supported by scrappage-funded purchases, has led to reduced sales of the Ford Fiesta, Renault Clio and Fiat Punto.

Commenting on the findings, Gareth Hession, Vice President, Research said: "While the lack of scrappage schemes has reduced sales of many smaller cars, the strong performance of medium sized cars such as Golf, Astra and Focus shows there are signs of recovery in the European car market."

## Top Ten Models

Make & Model	Jan_11	Jan_10	% Change Jan	Jan YtD_11	Jan YtD_10	% Change YtD
VOLKSWAGEN GOLF	38,860	39,602	-1.9%	38,860	39,602	-1.9%
VOLKSWAGEN POLO	28,882	31,744	-9.0%	28,882	31,744	-9.0%
FORD FIESTA	27,012	39,324	-31.3%	27,012	39,324	-31.3%
RENAULT CLIO	25,525	32,164	-20.6%	25,525	32,164	-20.6%
OPEL/VAUXHALL CORSA	22,608	23,036	-1.9%	22,608	23,036	-1.9%
OPEL/VAUXHALL ASTRA	21,603	20,242	+6.7%	21,603	20,242	+6.7%
PEUGEOT 207	20,742	24,924	-16.8%	20,742	24,924	-16.8%
FIAT PUNTO	20,718	27,915	-25.8%	20,718	27,915	-25.8%
FORD FOCUS	20,673	20,489	+0.9%	20,673	20,489	+0.9%
RENAULT MEGANE	19,369	20,531	-5.7%	19,369	20,531	-5.7%

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